

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 NIC-01 DRC-01 /118 W

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R 161856Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1774

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

UNCLAS QUITO 4698

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EC, MX

SUBJECT: MEXICAN PRESIDENTIAL VISIT COMPLETED

REF: QUITO 4632

1. MEXICAN PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA LEFT QUITO FOR LIMA THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 14 AFTER A HEAVILY PUBLICIZED FOUR DAY OFFICIAL VISIT. IN A PRE-DEPARTURE PRESS INTERVIEW, ECHEVERRIA SAID HIS VISIT HAD HAD "EXCELLENT RESULTS" AND HAD LEFT "A POSITIVE BALANCE IN EVERY ASPECT".

2. THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE OF HIS TRIP, ACCORDING TO ECHEVERRIA, WAS TO PROMOTE "A COMMON FRONT FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE PRICES OF OUR PRODUCTS" MENTIONING, AS AN EXAMPLE, COFFEE - AND CITING THE MEXICAN PROPOSAL TO CREATE AN ASSOCIATION OF COFFEE-EXPORTING COUNTRIES. HE CITED THE PROPOSED CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES AND SAID IT INVOLVED A "TRUE NATIONALIST ALLIANCE", BASED ON A UNCLASSIFIED

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"NEW NATIONALISM". HE ALSO INDICATED MEXICO'S GREAT

SYMPATHY FOR THE PROGRESS OF THE ANDEAN PACT, SAYING "MEXICO'S RELATIONS WITH THE PACT WILL BECOME CLOSER AND NOT ONLY BILATERALLY ... BUT WITH THE GROUP ITSELF".

3. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA WAS ALSO QUESTIONED RATHER CLOSELY ABOUT MEXICAN FOREIGN POLICY AND INTERNAL POLITICAL CONDITIONS. REGARDING THE LATTER, HE DENIED EMPHATICALLY THAT THERE WERE ANY POLITICAL PRISONERS IN MEXICO OR THAT ANYONE IS PERSECUTED FOR THEIR IDEAS. BRISTLING AT ONE QUESTIONER WHO REFERRED TO MEXICO AS AN "APPARENT DEMOCRACY", ECHEVERRIA CALLED MEXICO A "YOUNG, MESTIZO DEMOCRACY ... STRIVING FOR THE BEST IN A CLIMATE OF TOLERANCE". HE DENIED THAT THE OPPOSITION WAS KEPT BY THE GOM DECLARING THAT, ON THE CONTRARY, IT WAS WELL FINANCED BOTH FROM INTERNAL AND FOREIGN SOURCES.

4. HE WOULD NOT BE VISITING CUBA, ECHEVERRIA CONTINUED, BECAUSE THE COUNTRY WAS NOT ON HIS ITINERARY, BUT RELATIONS WITH HAVANA WERE "MAGNIFICENT". THE BEST HE COULD SAY ABOUT RELATIONS WITH CHILE, HOWEVER, IS THAT THEY "WERE NOT AT THE FREEZING POINT". HE SPOKE OF HIS TRIPS TO CHINA AND THE USSR AND CHARACTERIZED THEM AS AN ATTEMPT TO ENLARGE MEXICO'S HORIZONS AFTER A PERIOD OF LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE ON THE U.S. HE SPOKE OF THE COLORADO RIVER SALINITY PROBLEM AND THE TREATMENT OF MEXICAN MIGRANT LABOR IN THE U.S. BUT INDICATED HE HAD HAD "POSITIVE RESULTS" IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENT NIXON.

5. REGARDING LOS, ECHEVERRIA INDICATED "SYMPATHY" FOR THE ECUADOREAN 200-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA THESIS, BUT SAID THAT MEXICO FAVORED THE PATRIMONIAL SEA CONCEPT. UNREPORTED BY ANY OF THE LOCAL MEDIA, BUT CARRIED IN THE PRENSA LATINA FILE, WAS A FURTHER COMMENT PURPORTEDLY MADE BY THE MEXICAN PRESIDENT TO THE EFFECT THAT "THE THESIS OF A 12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA AND A 188-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE DOES NOT CONTRADICT THE ECUADOREAN STAND; THE TWO THESES SUPPORT EACH OTHER".

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6. MAJOR POINTS OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE FOLLOW SEPTEL.
BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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Film Number: D740191-0178
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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To: STATE
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